



Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting
Monday, November 12, 2018
6:00 PM
Council Chambers

Those in attendance:

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
Councilman Billy G. Richardson
County Administrator, David W. Epperson

Vice Chairman W.J. Frierson
Councilman Benton Blakely
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Absent: Councilman AC English

Press in attendance: Manning Times, Laura Stone

Others in attendance included:

Lynden Anthony	Maria Rose	Susan Landfried	Nathaniel Dyson
Meesha Witherspoon	Joe Witt	Ericka Floyd	Tammy Rodvansky
Tony Junious	Trey Phillips	Shelton Hughes	Linda Lemon
And other Clarendon County Residents			

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with opening comments remembering all Veterans. Councilman Richardson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

1 Approval of the Agenda

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the agenda for November 12, 2018.

2. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on October 8, 2018.

3. Service Awards Recognition

Prior to the business session of the Regular Council Meeting, Chairman Stewart, Administrator Epperson, and Linda Lemon, Director of Human Resources, presented three employees with service awards. The awards were presented as listed:

- Rhunette Robinson 10 Years
- Shelton Hughes 20 Years
- Juliette Brunson 35 Years

4. Board Appointments

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson Council voted Unanimous Approval to appoint Matthew Prince to the Building Board of Appeals representing District 2.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to appoint Julie Rickenbaker to the Assessment Board representing District 1.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Sherry Stewart, Carole Summers, Robertha Harrison, and Cynthia Mack to serve another term on the Archives Advisory Commission.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Walter Colclough and J.M. Ard to serve another term on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Walter David Young and Michael Huizenda to serve another term on the Aeronautics Commission.

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Russell Harrelson to serve another term on the Building Board of Appeals.

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Roger (Bubba) Flowers, Jr. and H. Blake Gibbons to serve another term on the Development Board.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Alan L. Gibbons, Connie Gamble, Nelson C. Walker, and Paul Floyd to serve another term on the Disabilities and Special Needs Board.

5. Ordinance 2018-10

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Third and Final Reading of Ordinance 2018-10, An Ordinance to Authorize the Sale of Real Property, with Improvements, Owned by Clarendon County, South Carolina and Identified as Clarendon County Tax Map Parcel No.: 187-03-003-002-00.

6. Public Hearing – Ordinance 2018-11

Chairman Stewart stated that the public hearing for Ordinance 2018-11 – An Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon County, South Carolina to Repeal Ordinances 2008-12 and 2013-04 Relating to Adoption of the Clarendon County Comprehensive Plan and to Adopt the Attached 2018 Comprehensive Plan in Conformance with the Requirements of Section 6-29 et. seq., Code of Laws of South Carolina; Providing for Severability and an Effective Date is now open.

The Public Hearing opened at 6:10 pm.

Maria Rose, Planning Director, began by stating that this Ordinance is to Adopt the 2018 Comprehensive Plan. She stated that by law the plan must be adopted every 10 years.

Susan Landfried, Planner-Santee Lynches Regional Council of Government, presented a presentation highlighting the changes to the Comprehensive Plan. She stated that from 1950 through 2010, Clarendon County population grew 8.8% whereas the state of South Carolina grew 118.5% over the same period. Ms. Landfried continued by stating the following:

- Housing Costs and Necessary Earnings to afford a home, wages needed to afford rent for a one bedroom is \$11.23 an hour, for a two-bedroom wages needed is \$12.96 an hour, and for a three-bedroom wages needed is \$18.77 an hour.
- Since 2008, Clarendon County has lost 11 proposed subdivision with a total of 1,158 new lots.
- Clarendon County average hourly wage is \$13.93, which is the lowest in the state of South Carolina. Williamsburg County average hourly wage is \$17.53, Orangeburg is \$17.78, Sumter is \$17.8, Florence is \$18.13 just to name a few.
- Clarendon County poverty rate is 26%.

Ms. Landfried concluded her presentation by stating that they conducted a survey in which they received 144 responses and the top 5 priorities in the area are as follows:

- Repair and maintain existing roads
 - Improve educational options
 - Build senior-friendly housing
 - Establish bus service
 - Enhance community appearance
- Nathaniel Dyson asked about the location of a recycling center on Highway 261.
- Administrator Epperson responded by stating that we have identified the property for a recycling center, but due to budget constraints we were not able to put it in the budget for this budget year.
- Chairman Stewart stated that we have several recycling centers and it's hard to locate land to put a recycling center on because people don't want the recycling center near their homes.
- Tony Junious – asked about the Old St. Paul School and is the County going to do something with the building because the County could benefit from utilizing that building.
- Chairman Stewart responded by stating that we would be glad to look into it and see how we can utilize that building and how we can get funding for it.
- Ms. Phillips – Would this plan repeal and replace the current plan.
- Maria Rose – This Comprehensive Plan will not change anything in Zoning. In Order to change Zoning, we will have to go through the same process.
- Ms. Phillips asked why wasn't there more Churches surveyed with the survey.
- Susan Landfried responded by stating that other Churches were asked but did not respond to the survey, she stated that Liberty Hill was opened to being surveyed.
- Councilman Blakely stated that District 3 is the poorest district in the state with the highest taxes.

Chairman Stewart stated that if there were no other comments, the public hearing would close. The Public Hearing closed at 7:06 pm.

7. Ordinance 2018-11

On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the Second Reading of Ordinance 2018-11, An Ordinance of the County Council of Clarendon County, South Carolina to Repeal Ordinances 2008-12 and 2013-04 Relating to Adoption of the Clarendon County Comprehensive Plan and to Adopt the Attached 2018 Comprehensive Plan in Conformance with the Requirements of Section 6-29 et. seq., Code of Laws of South Carolina; Providing for Severability and an Effective Date.

8. Financial Report

Mr. Lynden Anthony, CFO, began his report by stating the following:

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$1,717,909 and Revenue figures were not available as of October 31, 2018.
- **Water and Sewer Department** had Operating Revenue of \$254,010 and Operating Expenses of \$203,927 as of October 31, 2018. He stated that after depreciation and Bond interest expense the Water and Sewer Department had Net Utility Loss of \$76,327.
- **Weldon Auditorium** had Revenue of \$8,217 for the month ending October 31, 2018 and total Expenses were \$43,626. He stated that the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of October 2018 after transfers with a Deficit of \$9,315.
- **The C-Fund Program** for the month of October 2018 had a Cash Balance of \$1,715,022 of which \$823,979 has been committed to remaining local paving projects, State Construction Projects in Progress and State Proviso Funds. He stated that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$891,043 as of the end of October 2018.

9. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by giving Council an update on the following projects:

- USDA Phase II – USDA approval for our contract award has been received. We are now in the process of scheduling a pre-con meeting so that the contract can be executed then construction can begin.
- The City of Manning recently contacted me regarding a meeting between City Council and County Council. This will be to discuss different items and ways the City and County can continue to work together.
- Walker Gamble Park – I recently met with Councilman Blakely at Walker Gamble Park to discuss proposed plans to upgrade the park. The project will be a phase project over multiple budget years due to funding needs.
- Tax bills have been mailed out.
- County Recreation Dept. – Fall sports are wrapping up and basketball registration in ongoing.

10. Chairman's Report

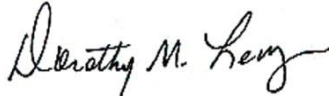
Chairman Stewart began his report by thanking all veterans for their service and he stated that the Chamber Retreat will be held on January 18th – 20th in Ashville.

11. Adjournment

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he declared that the Council meeting was adjourn.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC

